

Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley

December 22, 2023



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Monroe County District
Attorney's Office

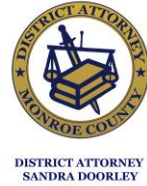
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Monroe County District Attorney's Office

Weekly Newsletter



Welcome to the weekly newsletter from Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley.

New York State Legislation and the Consortium for Safe Communities

In October 2022, a group of concerned citizens, business owners, clergy people, and law enforcement met to discuss the grave public safety concerns we have seen in recent months and years. In 2021, the City of Rochester hit a recording-breaking number of homicides and in 2022, we recorded an all-time high number of shootings and weapons arrests. The members of this group were fed up with the state of crime, and the Consortium for Safe Communities was created.

The Consortium for Safe Communities worked together to identify legislative solutions to the violence plaguing our community. While it is difficult to attribute the rise in homicides, gun crimes, and car thefts solely to New York State Legislation, multiple laws were enacted in a short period of time, completely changing the way law enforcement does business.

2018 – Raise the Age for 16-year-olds

2019 – Raise the Age for 17-year-old

2020 – Criminal Justice Reform (Bail & Discovery)

2022 – Less is More, Parole Reform

The Legislative Session resumes on January 3, 2024. There are two more pieces of criminal justice legislation that may be discussed in this term. One of these proposals is known as Elder Parole.

Elder Parole, or S.2423/A.2035, states that any person incarcerated in the New York State Department of Corrections who is 55 or older and has served at least 15 years of a sentence shall have a subsequent interview with the Board of Parole to determine whether they should be released to community supervision. As written, there are no carve-outs based on the conviction. As written, every type of conviction is impacted, including murder, rape, and child abuse. You can find this legislation here: <https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2023/S2423>

The second piece of legislation I want to make everyone aware of is S.774/A.1128. This appears to be a sleeper bill, introduced by our own local senate delegation, titled the "Earned Time Act." Under this proposal, every individual with a determinate or indeterminate sentence will only serve ½ their imposed sentence with good behavior credit, except for those individuals serving life sentences. Currently, any incarcerated person in DOCCS must serve 6/7th of their sentence for good behavior. If passed as written, this will be retroactive for all incarcerated persons. You can find this legislation here: <https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2023/S774>.

Homicide Update

So far in 2023:

City of Rochester Total:
57

Monroe County Total: 64

I bring these two bills to your attention because they appear to be flying under the radar. I believe the community deserves to know the proposals on which your legislators are voting. If both of these bills passed, the sentences imposed by a court will not be nearly what a convicted person will serve. As criminal justice reforms are rushed through at rapid speed, we must pay attention to what is at stake.

Currently, the Consortium for Safe Communities is asking New York State Legislators to slow down and instead of pushing through new criminal justice legislation this session, review some of the unintended consequences caused by these recent reforms. The Consortium is asking New York State Legislators to:

- 1. Introduce a “Repeat Offenders Standard”**
- 2. Risk of Public Safety Standard** When Determining Custody Status
- 3. Review and draft “Clean Law”** to uphold the positive intentions of bail reform while safeguarding constituents from individuals who persist in criminal activities
- 4. Opposition for Elder Parole Legislation**

To learn more about these goals, Mark Siwiec created a video with Sheriff Baxter explaining each facet of the Consortium’s requests at [Help Keep Our Neighborhoods Safe](https://lnkd.in/gbeXsxPB) || <https://lnkd.in/gbeXsxPB> - YouTube



Help Keep Our Neighborhoods Safe || <https://lnkd.in/gbeXsxPB>

Mark Siwiec Team
125 subscribers

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To learn more about the Consortium for Safe Communities and to sign on to our cause, please visit

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/sv/oVQm5fg/CSC112023>.

The purpose of this organization is not to impede progress, but to keep our families, friends, and neighbors safe. Together with my business associates, friends, elected representatives, law enforcement professionals, and esteemed community figures, I am proud to align with the Consortium for Safe Communities. We can join with our elected representatives to push for progress while prioritizing a safer community.

Sandra

Highlights from the MCDA's Office

A Monroe County Jury convicted 27-year-old **Chaquan Jackson** of two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree and one count of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree for the illegal possession of a weapon on January 28, 2023. This was investigated by the Rochester Police Department and prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Camille Ingino, of the Major Felony Bureau. Chaquan Jackson will be sentenced on January 17, 2024, in front of New York State Supreme Court Justice Renzi. The co-defendant in this case, Joey Daniels, is scheduled for trial in February 2024.

40-year-old **Detric Marshall** was sentenced by Monroe County Court Judge Vacca to 15 years in the New York State Department of Corrections plus 5 years of post-release supervision for his involvement in the death of his father, Charles Marshall. He previously pled guilty to Manslaughter in the 1st Degree. This case was investigated by the Rochester Police Department and prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Rachel Clark, of the Non-Fatal Shooting Taskforce.

Cordell Smith was indicted on Driving While Intoxicated, Aggravated Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle in the 1st Degree, Reckless Driving, Obstructing Governmental Administration in the 2nd Degree, and Resisting Arrest in relation to a vehicular incident on June 7, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jason Espinosa, of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau.

Robert Hanley, Jr. was indicted on two counts of Driving While Intoxicated and Aggravated Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle in the 1st Degree in relation to a vehicular incident on June 13, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Janna Koch, of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau.

Jamari Downs was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree in relation to the illegal possession of a firearm on April 7, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Stephen Ryck, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

The Holiday Season!

The Monroe County District Attorney's office held its annual Holiday Pot-Luck celebration and competition. This celebration is put together by our dedicated Victim/Witness Bureau to bring some holiday cheer to our hard-working employees. At this event, we handed out service awards and held a friendly competition.

Congratulations to our competition winners:

Appetizer Winner – ADA **Adam VanHeyst** for her Hot Shrimp Dip

Crockpot Winner – ADA **Aliyah Fowler** for her Pizza Dip

Dessert Winner – ADA **Ellie Laloudakis** for her Raspberry Mousse filled chocolate cups with candied pistachios (3rd Year in a row!)

Table Décor Winner – ADA **Diane Orosz-Roy** for her Waving Santa Centerpiece

Thank you to all who entered this year's fierce contest!



From all of us at the Monroe County District Attorney's Office, be safe, be healthy, and

Merry Christmas** and **Happy Holidays!!

MCDA in the News

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/91-year-old-testifies-early-against-former-aide-accused-of-stealing-thousands/>

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/rochester-man-sentenced-15-years-for-killing-father-inside-home/>

<https://13wham.com/news/local/rochester-man-sentenced-in-fathers-deadly-stabbing>

<https://www.rochesterfirst.com/crime/man-sentenced-to-prison-after-fathers-fatal-stabbing/>

https://rochesterdemocrat-ny.newsmemory.com/?publink=1f99dbc29_134ae55

<https://www.rochesterfirst.com/rochester/3-arrested-after-rochester-robbery-police-chase-lexington-curlew/>

<https://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/news/2023/12/19/alyssa-taylor-fatally-shot-trio-restaurant-henrietta-ny/71976730007/>



We are hiring attorneys! If you are a recent law school graduate or an experienced attorney and are interested in a career in criminal law and public service, apply with us today! More information is available on monroecounty.gov/da.